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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Group Art Unit: 1623

Rolf W. PFIRRMANN

Serial No. 09/527,558

Examiner: L. Maier

Filed: March 16, 2000

For: ANTICOAGULANT/STERILIZING COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS

RESPONSE AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In an Office Action dated February 25, 2003, claims 1-4, 13 and 24-34 were rejected. In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and allowance of the claims.

Claims 1-4 and 13 were rejected as being unpatentable over Lehner (WO 98/28027) in view of Reinmüller (U.S. Patent No. 5,077,281). Claims 24-34 were rejected as being unpatentable over Lehner in view of Raad et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,688,516). Claims 24-34 were rejected as being unpatentable over Lehner and Raad, and further in view of Ito et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,167,960). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

In each of the above rejections, the primary reference is Lehner (WO 98/28027). The publication date of Lehner is July 2, 1998, with a PCT filing date of December 23, 1997.

The present application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/493,797, filed January 28, 2000, which is a continuation of PCT/GB98/02311, filed July 31, 1998, which claims priority to United Kingdom Application No. 971621902, filed July 31, 1997.

Since Lehner was published after the earliest priority date of the present application, any rejection based on Lehner should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, withdrawal of all of the rejections set forth in the February 25, 2003 Office Action is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that the present application is now in condition for allowance.
Reconsideration and favorable action are earnestly requested.

Additionally, Applicant petitions the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated February 25, 2003 for one month from May 25, 2003 to June 25, 2003. Enclosed is a check for \$55.00 to cover the cost of the extension.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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